

Application No.: 09/784,247
Amendment per §1.116

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 20 and 49 are currently being amended, and no claims are currently be canceled or added. Therefore, claims 1-35 and 37-51 are pending in the application.

Advisory Action Requested

If this response does not result in a Notice of Allowance, Applicant hereby requests a timely Advisory Action. This response is being filed within two months of the mailing date of the Final Action.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

I. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-27, 30-31 and 33-35 continue to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,984,177 to Rondel et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,544,050 to Abe et al. and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,606,498 to Maruta et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for several reasons.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to recite "outputting instructions in a target language that the user does not understand from the communication device in response to a received input command, the instructions requesting a non-verbal response to a phrase". This amendment is supported by Applicant's specification at, for example, page 8, lines 2-6. Applicant has amended independent claim 20 in a similar manner.

The Examiner continues to assert that Abe et al.'s column 5, lines 2-4 teach Applicant's claimed "outputting instructions in a target language . . ." limitation.

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Applicant requests the Examiner to reconsider this assertion because this portion of Abe et al. simply does not teach Applicant's claimed limitation.

Specifically, Abe et al.'s column 5, lines 2-4, state "an input/output area 721 for designating and switching right-handedness or left-handedness of the person performing the sign-language motion". Abe et al.'s input/output area 721 does not output instructions "in a target language that the user does not understand" as is now recited in Applicant's claim 1. Specifically, in Abe et al. the only language that could possibly be considered a target language is sign language since that is what the user is trying to learn. Abe et al.'s input/output area 721 does not output anything in sign language. The only thing written on the input/output area 721 is English text, which in Abe et al.'s scenario is not a target language. Furthermore, the English text can be understood by the user in Abe et al. Therefore, the English text is not "a target language that the user does not understand" as recited in Applicant's claim.

Furthermore, it is important to note that "the person performing the sign-language motion" in Abe et al.'s column 5, lines 2-4 is the person displayed on the output area 711 in Abe et al.'s FIG. 7. That is, Abe et al.'s input/output area 721 controls the display method of the image data displayed on the output area 711. (See Abe et al., col. 6, lines 37-41). The user is able to use the input/output area 721 to select a right or left hander for the person displayed on the output area 711. As such, the input/output area 721 does not output "instructions requesting a non-verbal response to a phrase" as is recited in Applicant's claim. This is because Abe et al.'s input/output area 721 does not output any instructions and does not request anything. It simply allows the user to

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select whether the person displayed on the output area 711 is a right or left hander.

Moreover, Abe et al.'s input/output area 721 certainly does not output instructions requesting a non-verbal response to "a phrase" as is recited in Applicant's claim. The Examiner has not shown where Abe et al. teaches that the input/output area 721 outputs instructions requesting a non-verbal response to "a phrase". The only thing written on the input/output area 721 is "RIGHT-/ LEFT-/ HANDER"; these are not instructions requesting a non-verbal response to "a phrase". Again, the input/output area 721 simply allows the user to select whether the person displayed on the output area 711 is a right or left hander. That is, the input/output area 721 gives no instructions requesting a non-verbal response to "a phrase".

In the latest office action the Examiner directs Applicant's attention to Abe et al.'s col. 6, line 59 through col. 7, line 15. This portion of Abe et al. supports Applicant's above arguments. Namely, in step 8104 of FIG. 6 the image of the person is displayed on the output area 711. Earlier in step 8101 of FIG. 6 the user is able to use the input/output area 721 to select a right or left hander for the person displayed on the output area 711, which supports Applicant's above arguments.

Therefore, for the above several reasons Abe et al. does not teach Applicant's claimed "outputting instructions in a target language that the user does not understand from the communication device in response to a received input command, the instructions requesting a non-verbal response to a phrase". As such, the rejections of Applicant's amended independent claims 1 and 20 should be withdrawn.

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Yet another reason that Applicant traverses the rejections of claims 1 and 20 is because there would be no motivation whatsoever for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Rondel et al. with Abe et al.'s input/output area 721. Namely, Rondel et al. discloses a voice language translator. Rondel et al.'s system has nothing to do with sign language or a sign language learning system. As such, it would make no sense whatsoever to modify Rondel et al.'s system with Abe et al.'s input/output area 721 for designating and switching right-handedness or left-handedness of the person performing the sign-language motion. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have no motivation to make such a modification because there is no person in Rondel et al. that is performing sign language.

The Examiner states that such a modification would provide "improved efficiency in the learning processes" as taught by Abe et al. (see Final Office Action mailed 6/2/05, page 5, lines 8-10). But Rondel et al.'s system has nothing to do with learning sign language, and so a person of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to make the proposed modification. Because there would be no motivation to modify Rondel et al.'s system with Abe et al.'s input/output area 721, a *prima facie* case of obviousness of Applicant's independent claims 1 and 20 has not been established. This is another reason the rejections of Applicant's claims 1 and 20 must be withdrawn.

Therefore, for all of the above reasons the rejections of Applicant's amended independent claims 1 and 20 must be withdrawn. Furthermore, the rejections of claims 2-19 and 21-35 must also be withdrawn for at least the above reasons due to their dependence on their respective independent claims.

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II. Claims 7, 12, 13, 15, 19, 23, 28, 29 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,984,177 to Rondel et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,544,050 to Abe et al. and in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,606,498 to Maruta et al. and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,321,188 to Hayashi et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

The rejections of claims 7, 12, 13, 15, 19, 23, 28, 29 and 32 should also be withdrawn for at least the above reasons due to their dependence on their respective independent claims.

III. Claims 37-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,984,177 to Rondel et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,606,498 to Maruta et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant's independent claim 37 recites storing text "entered by a user" in the user's language corresponding to a custom phrase. Independent claim 43 includes similar limitations.

Applicant argued in his last response that Maruta et al.'s col. 7, lines 10-11, does not disclose that text "entered by a user" in the user's language corresponding to a custom phrase is stored, as recited in Applicant's claim 37. Instead, the cited language in Maruta et al. states that the character generator 45 generates patterns of characters. Furthermore, Applicant submits that the next phrase read out of Maruta et al.'s ROM 43 could not have been "entered by a user" because the ROM 43 is a Read Only Memory that cannot be written to.

In the latest office action the Examiner has not responded to these arguments. The Examiner merely states that

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the "argument has been answered by the claim rejections below". (See Final Office Action mailed 6/2/05, page 3, lines 3-5). But the argument has not been answered by the previous claim rejections. In fact, the argument could not have been answered by the previous claim rejections because the claims did not include the amended limitations when those rejections were entered. As such, the Examiner has not properly addressed Applicant's amendments and arguments. For example, the Examiner has not explained how the next phrase read out of Maruta et al.'s ROM 43 could possibly be "entered by a user" when the ROM 43 is a Read Only Memory that cannot be written to.

Therefore, Applicant again submits that the rejections of independent claims 37 and 43 must be withdrawn. Furthermore, the rejections of claims 38-42 and 44-48 must also be withdrawn for at least the above reasons due to their dependence on their respective independent claims.

Applicant has amended independent claim 49 to recite storing personal information in a communication device using a user's language, "the personal information including at least one of the user's name, age, birth date, company affiliation, address, nationality, sex, marital status, customs, family, clothing preferences, clothing sizes, entertainment preferences, tourist preferences, professional background, educational background, hobbies, financial information, travel origination, travel destination, or food preferences". This amendment is supported by Applicant's specification at, for example, page 32, lines 6-13. Independent claim 49 has also been amended to recite outputting "one or more items of" the "personal" information from the communication device in a target language. This amendment is supported by Applicant's specification at, for example, page 33, line 20 to page 35,

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line 16.

The Examiner continues to assert that Applicant's claimed step of "storing personal information . . ." is disclosed by Rondel et al.'s col. 15, lines 55-60. But the "personalizing" referred to in this portion of Rondel et al. relates to voice recognition technology in terms of the system being able to "pick out the voice of the user" as admitted by the Examiner. (See Final Office Action mailed 6/2/05, page 4, lines 1-2). This is clearly not the type of "personal information" recited in Applicant's claim. And this portion of Rondel et al. does not disclose any of the items of personal information that have been amended into claim 49.

The Examiner also continues to assert that Applicant's claimed step of "outputting the information . . ." is disclosed by Rondel et al.'s col. 14, lines 65-67. In the latest office action the Examiner states that Rondel et al.'s ability to pick out the voice of the user and not respond to others "provide[s] a different output from user to user; therefore, the output would be personalized by each user, and provide this information within the output." (See Final Office Action mailed 6/2/05, page 4, lines 1-2) (emphasis added). Applicant's response to this argument is: provide what information? Where does Rondel et al. teach outputting "personal information" of the type recited in Applicant's claim? Applicant asserts that Rondel et al. does not teach this. And this portion of Rondel et al. does not teach any of the items of personal information that have been amended into claim 49.

The ability to pick out the voice of the user does not disclose the outputting of "personal information" from the communication device in a target language. Rondel et al.'s col. 14, lines 65-67 merely states that "the spoken sentence

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is emitted via the speaker in the foreign language". Rondel et al. does not teach that the spoken sentence is "personal information" of the type recited in Applicant's claim. Moreover, the ability to pick out the voice of the user is a listening function of the device and not an outputting function. Therefore, Rondel et al. does not teach the claimed limitation.

Therefore, Applicant submits that the rejection of Applicant's amended independent claim 49 must be withdrawn. Furthermore, the rejections of claims 50-51 must also be withdrawn for at least the above reasons due to their dependence on independent claim 49.

No Fees Believed to be Due

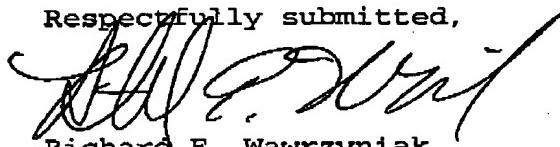
No extra claims fees are believed to be due.

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C O N C L U S I O N

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Richard E. Wawrzyniak at (858)552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard E. Wawrzyniak
Reg. No. 36,048

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Address all correspondence to:

Richard E. Wawrzyniak, Esq.
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY
120 So. LaSalle Street, Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Customer No. 22242
Telephone No.: (858) 552-1311
Facsimile No.: (858) 552-0095